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26 OCT 1994

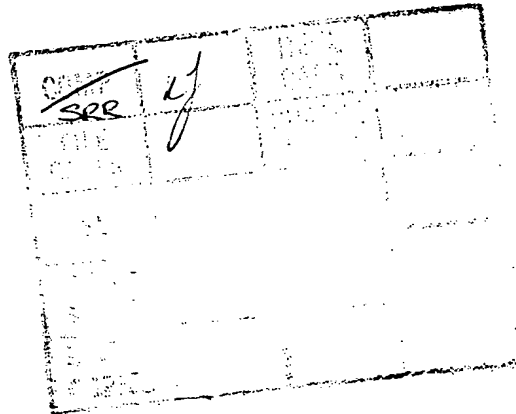
The Patent Office

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O/Ref: GB 9419139.2
Y/Ref: PF 136420 *UK3*
Date: *24m* October 1994



Dear Sirs

PATENTS ACT 1977

REPORT UNDER SECTION 17 on Application No GB 9419139.2

I enclose two copies of the examiner's search report to the Comptroller. The examiner is R I W Honeywood.

2. You may now if you wish, at any time from the date upon which you receive this letter until the date of the first examination report sent to you under Section 18, submit amendments, subject to the requirements of the Act and the Rules.

3. Provided all the necessary requirements have been met and the application has not been withdrawn, the preparations for publication of the application under Section 16(1) will be completed not earlier than 15½ months after the declared priority date or (if there is no declared priority date) the filing date, and not less than 4 weeks after the date of this letter. If, though, a request has been accepted under Section 16(1) for publication before the prescribed period of 18 months, the preparations will be completed as soon as possible and such completion may occur slightly less than the 4 weeks previously referred to.

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2

Ref: GB 9419139.2

4. If you wish to withdraw the application before publication or to file new or amended claims for publication with the application, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. It would greatly assist the Patent Office to respond to any such actions made 15 months or more after the declared priority or filing date if letters covering these actions were prominently marked in red, "URGENT - SECTION 16 PUBLICATION IMMINENT".

5. You will receive a further letter giving notice that the preparations are then shortly to be completed and telling you the serial number to be given to your application on publication. The letter will also give information about further processing of your application.

Yours faithfully

L HILL
FORMALITIES OFFICER

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